

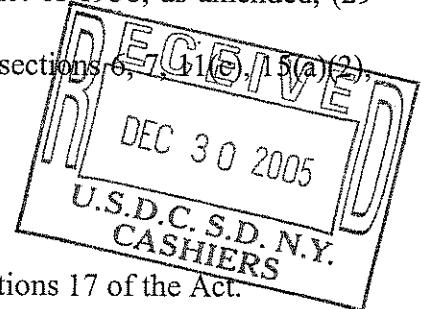
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR
THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

ELAINE L. CHAO, Secretary of Labor, :
United States Department of Labor, :
JUDGE HOLWELL : Civil Action
Plaintiff, :
v. : File No.
: C O M P L A I N T
783 MANHATTAN FRUIT EXCHANGE, INC., :
A Corporation; LOUIS LATILLA, Individually :
and as Owner; DELIO LATILLA, Individually :
and as Owner; VITO LATILLA, Individually and :
as Owner, :
Defendants. :

05 CV 10887

Plaintiff, ELAINE L. CHAO, Secretary of Labor, United States Department of Labor, brings this action under Sections 17 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended, (29 U.S.C. §201, et seq.), ("the Act"), alleging that defendants violated sections 6, 7, 11(e), 15(a)(2), and 15(a)(5) of the Act.

I



Jurisdiction of this action is conferred upon the Court by Sections 17 of the Act.

II

Defendant, doing business as 783 MANHATTAN FRUIT EXCHANGE INC., is a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of New York having its principal office and place of business at 448 West 16th Street within the jurisdiction of this court, where defendant is engaged in the distributing fruit and vegetables.

III

Defendants corporation has regulated the employment of all persons it employed, acted directly and indirectly in the corporation's interest in relation to the employees, and was thus an employer of the employees within the meaning of section 3(d) of the Act.

IV

Defendant LOUIS F. LATILLA, who resides at 146 West 57th Street, New York, New York 10019, is an officer of defendant corporation, in active control and management of defendant corporation, regulated the employment of persons employed by defendant corporation, acted directly and indirectly in the interest of defendant corporation in relation to the employees, and was thus an employer of the employees within the meaning of section 3(d) of the Act.

V

Defendant DELIO LATILLA, who resides at 20 Herbst Road, Old Tappan, New Jersey 07675 is an officer of defendant corporation, in active control and management of defendant corporation, regulated the employment of persons employed by defendant corporation, acted directly and indirectly in the interest of defendant corporation in relation to the employees, and was thus an employer of the employees within the meaning of section 3(d) of the Act.

VI

Defendant VITO LATILLA, who resides at 9 Wright Court, Clarksberg, New Jersey 08510 is an officer of defendant corporation in active control and management of defendant corporation, regulated the employment of persons employed by defendant corporation, acted directly and indirectly in the interest of defendant corporation in relation to the employees, and was thus an employer of the employees within the meaning of section 3(d) of the Act.

VII

Defendants employ employees at their places of business in the activities of an enterprise engaged in commerce or in the production of goods for commerce, including employees handling, selling, or otherwise working on goods or materials that have been moved in or produced for commerce. The enterprise has had an annual gross volume of sales made or business done in an amount not less than \$500,000.00. Therefore, the employees are employed in an enterprise engaged in commerce or in the production of goods for commerce within the meaning of section 3(s)(1)(A) of the Act.

VIII

Defendants in many workweeks have violated the provisions of sections 6 and 15(a)(2) of the Act by employing many of their employees at rates less than those which are applicable under Section 6 of the Act. Therefore, defendants are liable for unpaid minimum wage compensation and prejudgment interest on the unpaid minimum wage compensation under section 17 of the Act.

IX

Defendants in many workweeks have violated the provisions of sections 7 and 15(a)(2) of the Act by employing many of their employees for workweeks longer than those prescribed in section 7 of the Act without compensating the employees for their employment in excess of the prescribed hours at rates not less than one and one-half times the regular rates at which they were employed. Therefore, defendants are liable for unpaid overtime compensation and prejudgment interest on the unpaid overtime compensation under section 17 of the Act.

X

Defendants have violated the provisions of sections 11(c) and 15(a)(5) of the Act, in that defendants failed to make, keep, and preserve adequate and accurate records of their employees and of the wages, hours, and other conditions of employment which they maintained as prescribed by the Regulations issued and found at 29 CFR Part 516; more specifically, the records kept by the defendants failed to show adequately and accurately, among other things, the hours worked each workday, the total hours worked each workweek, the regular rate of pay, the basis upon which wages were paid, the total straight-time earnings for each workweek, and/or the total overtime compensation for each workweek, with respect to many of their employees.

XI

Defendants since October, 2002 have violated the provisions of the Act as alleged above.

WHEREFORE, cause having been shown, plaintiff prays for judgment against defendants providing the following relief:

- (1) For an injunction issued pursuant to section 17 of the Act permanently restraining defendants, their officers, agents, employees, and those persons in active concert or participation with defendant, from violating the provisions of sections 6, 7, 11(c), 15(a)(2) and 15(a)(5) of the Act; and
- (2) For an injunction issued pursuant to section 17 of the Act restraining defendants, their officers, agents, employees, and those persons in active concert or participation with defendants, from withholding the amount of unpaid minimum wage and overtime compensation found due defendants' employees and prejudgment interest computed at the underpayment rate established by the Secretary of Treasury pursuant to 26 U.S.C. §6621; and
- (3) For an order awarding plaintiff the cost of this action; and

(4) For an order granting such other and further relief as may be necessary and appropriate.

DATED: December 29, 2005
New York, New York


HOWARD M. RADZELY
Solicitor of Labor


PATRICIA M. RODENHAUSEN
Regional Solicitor


DOUGLAS WEINER
Senior Trial Attorney
DW (1965)

U.S. Department of Labor,
Attorneys for Plaintiff.

POST OFFICE ADDRESS:

Patricia M. Rodenhausen
Regional Solicitor
U.S. Department of Labor
201 Varick Street, Room 983
New York, New York 10014
Tel. 212-337-2097
FAX 212-337-2112